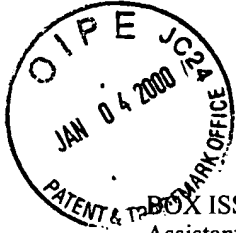


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Timothy A. Gutzmann et al. Examiner: M. Cano
Serial No.: 09/419,019 Group Art Unit: 1761
Filed: 10/15/99 Docket: 163.1239USD1
Notice of Allow. Date: 12/07/99 Batch No.: F35
Title: TREATMENT OF ANIMAL CARCASSES



CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: BOX ISSUE FEE Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 29, 1999.

By: Mark DiPietro

Mark DiPietro

BOX ISSUE FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

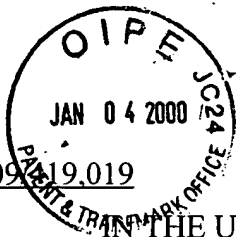
- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
3100 Norwest Center, Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 332-5300

By: Mark DiPietro

Name: Mark DiPietro
Reg. No.: 28,707
MD:dms



S/N 09/419,019

PATENT

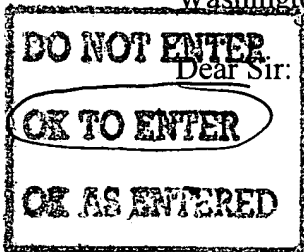
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Box: ISSUE FEE
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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AMENDMENTS

In the Claims

1 37. A method of treating an animal carcass [and] or cut meat to reduce a microbial population in resulting cut meat, the method comprising the steps of:

C¹ spraying an aqueous antimicrobial treatment composition onto said carcass or cut meat at a pressure of at least 50 psi at a temperature of up to about 60°C resulting in a contact time of at least 30 seconds, the antimicrobial composition comprising at least 2 ppm of one or more peroxycarboxylic acids having up to 12 carbon atoms; and at least 20 ppm of one or more carboxylic acids having up to 18 carbon atoms; and achieving at least a one log₁₀ reduction in the microbial population.

C² 43. A method of treating an animal carcass [and] or cut meat to reduce a microbial population in resulting cut meat, the method comprising the steps of:

placing the carcass or cut meat in a chamber at atmospheric pressure;